

BellSouth Corporation
Legal Department
675 West Peachtree Street
Suite 4300
Atlanta, GA 30375-0001

stephen.earnest@bellsouth.com

Stephen L. Earnest
Regulatory Counsel

404 335 0711
Fax 404 614 4054

March 1, 2004

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *In the Matter of Deployment of Wireline Services Offering Advanced Telecommunications Capability and Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, CC Docket Nos. 98-147 and 96-98, Third Report and Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket No. 98-147, Fourth Report and Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket No. 96-98, 16 FCC Rcd 2101, 2001.*

Dear Ms. Dortch

On March 8, 2001 BellSouth Corporation, on behalf of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth"), filed a Petition for Reconsideration of the Commission's *Third Report and Order on Reconsideration* in the above referenced proceedings. BellSouth no longer wishes to pursue its petition. Accordingly, BellSouth hereby requests leave to withdraw its Petition for Reconsideration.

Respectfully submitted



Stephen L. Earnest

SLE:lb

cc: Michelle Carey (via e-mail)
Jeremy Miller (via e-mail)